

Agenda Item E-1

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS June 25, 2001

The council supports statewide programs that assist in attracting, enrolling, retaining, and graduating African American students. The institutions are encouraged to use the programs to support strategies outlined in the Kentucky Plan for Equal Opportunities and the Partnership Agreement with the Office for Civil Rights. Many African Americans have participated in and benefited from the programs.

SREB Doctoral Scholars Program

The Southern Regional Education Board Doctoral Scholars Program addresses the underrepresentation of minorities in postsecondary education. This program provides academic and financial support to minorities pursuing the doctoral degree. Kentucky has served a total of 25 doctoral scholars (15 doctoral scholars, 10 dissertation year scholars) since 1993. Ten have earned the doctoral degree; 13 students are currently matriculating.

The council will support nine additional scholars in fall 2001. The University of Kentucky served 20 students and the University of Louisville has served five students.

Kentucky's Doctoral Scholars

Since the program's inception in 1993:

- 25 Scholars have entered the program
- 1 Withdrew from the program
- 2 Transferred to institutions outside Kentucky
- 13 Are matriculating toward completion of a doctoral degree

Category of Program Participants:

- 15 Doctoral Scholars
- 10 Dissertation Scholars
- 25 Total Scholars

Demographics of Scholars:

- 15 Women
- 10 Men
- 20 African American
- 1 Hispanic American
- 3 American Indian/Alaskan Native
- 1 Other

The Governor's Minority Student College Preparation Program

The University of Kentucky, the University of Louisville, and the council co-sponsored the first statewide conference for participants of the Governor's Minority Student College Preparation Program, June 13 - 14, 2001. This event brought together approximately 400 middle and junior high school students and parents from across the Commonwealth. The conference featured academic enrichment sessions on advanced placement courses, the pre-college curriculum, the digital divide, campus security, school safety, and African American history and culture. Students toured the UK campus and the W.T. Young Library. A special workshop was offered to parents to encourage them to strengthen their children's academic skills. Programs are at each university and 14 of the community and technical colleges.

The 14TH Annual Academically Proficient African American High School Sr. Conference

The University of Louisville hosted the 14th Annual Academically Proficient African American High School Senior Conference on June 22-23, 2001. Students, parents, and college representatives participated. Workshop topics included: preparing admission and financial aid applications, strengthening communication skills, developing coping skills, selecting a college, and choosing a career. A parent workshop was also included.

The UofL hosted a college fair to allow college representatives to dialogue with Kentucky resident African American high school juniors, seniors, and their parents. The goal of the conference was to offer information and support to students transitioning from high school to postsecondary education.

The Louisville Defender Minority Expo

Minority Consumer Expo will be held November 9-11, 2001, at the Kentucky International Convention Center in downtown Louisville. State government and the Louisville Defender sponsor the annual event. The Expo offers postsecondary institutions an opportunity to showcase their "best practices" and to answer questions from students and parents. College and university participation in the event is coordinated through the council. Institutional representatives have been asked to submit comments, ideas, and suggestions for improvement of the event to the council staff. The next coordinators' meeting is Friday, June 29, 2001.

The Governor's Diversity Day

Although this is not a postsecondary education program, the council participates in this event. The Governor's Diversity Day is Wednesday, November 14, 2001, at the Farnham Dudgeon Civic Center in downtown Frankfort. The conference is a forum to promote diversity and multiculturalism in health, education, and industry. The conference is coordinated by the state's Personnel cabinet. The institutions will be contacted to determine their interest in participating.